

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJ: LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE NATO MEETING

REF: USIA 15029 CIRCULAR

RADIO COMMENT ON AGENDA OF MEETING. TV NEWS MAY 19 COVERED
PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY NATO SECRETARY-GENERAL LUNS IN
OSLO. NO EDITORIAL COMMENT YET BUT FAIRLY EXTENSIVE COVERAGE
MEETING'S AGENDA. COVERAGE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

"DE TELEGRAFF" INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE 5.20.1976

"RUSSIAN SUPERIORITY ALARMS NATO TOP"

(REPORT FROM THIS PAPER'S SPECIAL REPORTERS ANDRE HERTER
AND K.D. STECHEMESSER, OSLO)

"THE DISQUIETING SPEED WITH WHICH THE SOVIET UNION IS STRENG-
THENING AND IMPROVING ITS ARMAMENTS WILL DOMINATE THIS
NATO MEETING. IT IS FEARED THAT THE SOVIET UNION CAN USE
ITS EVENTUAL MILITARY SUPREMACY AS A POLITICAL INSTRUMENT IN
ORDER TO FORCE WESTERN EUROPE INTO A NEUTRAL ROLE.

"ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD" INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE 5.20.1976

"BECAUSE THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS HAVE NOT YET YIELDED ANY
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RESULTS THE MINISTERS IN OSLO CANNOT MAKE ANY IMPORTANT

DECISIONS ABOUT THE ATTITUDE THE WESTERN WORLD SHOULD TAKE
TOWARDS THE EAST BLOC."

"HET VRIJE VOLK" LEFTIST-ORIENTED 5.19.1976

"KISSINGER'S DEPARTURE CASTING A SHADOW ON NATO TOP MEETING"

"ALTHOUGH KISSINGER'S PARTICIPATION IN OSLO IS BEING CALLED
HIS SWAN-SONG EVERYONE AGREES THAT HE WILL STRONGLY INFLUENCE
THE TALKS. BECAUSE HE IS BEING REGARDED IN THE US AS BECOMING
AN INCREASING IMPEDIMENT TO PRESIDENT FORD IN HIS ELECTION CAM-
PAIGN KISSINGER WILL DEFINITELY LET OFF SOME FIREWORKS IN
OSLO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLACING FORD IN A BETTER LIGHT."

"NRC HANDELSBLAD" INDEPENDENT LIBERAL 5.10.1976

"NATO MINISTER TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF ITALY"

(BY THIS PAPER'S BRUSSELS CORRESPONDENT S. V

' DD

ZEE)

"IT SEEMS THAT NOT ALL THE MEMBER STATES WISH TO DISCUSS
THE ITALIAN QUESTION AT THIS MEETING. THEY FEAR THAT THE
ALLIANCE WILL BE REPROACHED FOR INTERFERING IN ITALIAN INTERNAL
CONCERNS. WHAT IS MORE, SOME MEMBERS CONSIDER THAT KISSINGER
IS ONLY HELPING THE ITALIAN COMMUNISTS ON BY HIS HEATED
ADJURATIONS AND THAT HE HAS APPROACHED THE WHOLE PROBLEM WITH
THE WRONG TACTICS, HAS ABSOLUTELY NO UNDERSTANDING
OF THE ITALIAN SITUATION AND HAS BEEN EXPRESSING HIMSELF
IN A FAR TOO PANICKY WAY. WHATEVER THE CASE IT MAY BE ASSUMED
THAT THE MEMBER STATES WILL BE VERY RETICENT ABOUT RELEASING
DETAILS REGARDING THE CONSULTATIONS ABOUT ITALY. "OTHER
POINTS WHICH SECRETARY KISSINGER WANTS TO DISCUSS IN OSLO
(THE US SECRETARY-OF-STATE IS OBVIOUSLY ON OCCASIONS SUCH
AS THESE A CENTRAL AND DECISIVE FIGURE) ARE THE SITUATION IN
THE MIDDLE EAST, HIS VISIT TO AFRICA, SALT 2 AND THE RHODES-
IAN QUESTION.

"ANOTHER WEIGHTY QUESTION IS THAT OF THE COD-FISH WAR.
IF GREAT BRITAIN AND ICELAND CANNOT BE RECONCILED IT IS
EXPECTED THAT ICELAND WILL LEAVE NATO. THIS QUESTION ONCE AGAIN
SHOWS ALL TOO CLEARLY HOW POWERLESS NATO IS WHEN INTERNAL
CONFLICTS OCCUR."

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